

ELLEN OSBORN'S
FASHION LETTER.Novel Ideas in Fan-
cy Dress for This
Week's Christmas
Parties.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Among the fancy dress parties that usher in the Christmas festivities there has not as yet been one as original and amusing as the farm party given last year by the Clarks.

That affair, as a good section of the newspaper reading public will remember, quite outvalued the once famous Cooper-Hewitt vegetable dance and the much-talked-of Howard Constable annexation party.

At the fancy ball given by the copper king of Montana the guests were roughly attired as plowmen, chicken women and farmhands; and the ball room had been transformed into a barn, with hangings of squashes and onions, and in one corner a miniature stable.

Successful as have been some of these season's fancy dances, they have offered no such daring programme. At Tuxedo a few nights ago the somewhat worn idea of a flower dance was carried out with unusual freshness and charm of costume. The ball room was decked with green and white and gold, against which background the delicate tints of the blossom dresses shone out with the greatest distinctness and perfection.

There was a lily maid in a wonderful bluish-green plaited and cut in points like a lily's petals. White lilies were set in applique around the hem of the skirt and up the middle of the front and on the bodice. At each side of the high knot of her blonde hair was set a lily; in her hand she carried a stalk of them.

Another pretty dress was that of the violet girl. She wore white silk laid in wide, shallow box plaits from top to bottom. A violet satin belt confined it at the waist. Around the waist were placed big, round bunches of violets forming a thick ruche; two ruffles formed of still larger bunches set out the bottom of the skirt. The violet girl wore violets in her hair and on her white slippers; the biggest bunch of all she carried in her hand.

Among the flowers danced insects. One of these was a dragon fly, in shimmering silver-gray silk that hinted of blue. Around the bottom of the gauzy creature's skirt were applied iridescent, blue and green dragon flies in a double row, with heads alternately up and down. Another fly was set at the opening of the bodice; a big fly with outstretched wings was poised on top of the little brunette beauty's head, and a third clung to her neck, seeming to hold her wings.

A doll party is not at all a hackneyed idea. It was tried a week or so ago as a feature of a house party at a Hudson River country place, and the dramatic humor of some of the guests, who counted in their walk and in the motion of their arms, and even in their carefully expressionless faces, the lifeless rigidity of the mannikins they were supposed to represent, contributed greatly to the success of the occasion.

The costumes were such as one sees at any toy shop—white lawn embroidered dresses, with blue sashes and blue kid slippers; frilly pink frocks and blue frocks modeled after those of the Japanese.

Many of the women wore their hair dressed in long blonde or dark ringlets hanging over the shoulders and tied with ribbons. Rag babies, negro babies, Japanese

at each side in long lines from the bust, where handsome gold ornaments are the fastenings.

For the Christmas dinner parties by which this week will be signalized a great many pretty simple dresses have been made of crepe de chine and fine white nun's veiling. These are usually supplied with a transparent neck and long transparent sleeves of lace or net, yet the elbow length is also worn. The skirts are finely tucked and inset with lace, or they are trimmed with three flounces. These flounces are usually plaited and have inch-wide hems with lace headings, through which may be run white velvet ribbons.

One dainty white crepe de chine dress that will figure at a large Christmas party and hold its own among many costumes more expensive, has a baby waist finely plaited and finished with a band of an old sea-green velvet around the décollete neck, running under the arms. Over this comes a tiny lace bolero that supplies the shoulder finish and the elbow sleeves; it has long ends that fall almost to the ground.

The skirt, which is closely plaited from the waist to the knees, has three plaited flounces edged with lace and gauze ribbon. The belt is of sea-green velvet.

Pretty evening waists for small Christmas parties are a feature of the season. They are mysterious combinations of chiffon, lace and satin, finished with a bunch of flowers at one side of the neck, while the other may have straps of velvet finished with real or imitation jewels.

The sleeves are sometimes merely a drooping scarf of chiffon, which is nothing more than a part of the neck finish; at others they are transparent and of elbow length, as is very modish for full dress, and yet again they are long. Very pretty sleeves are made of lace from shoulder to elbow, with a full under-sleeve of dainty net below.

ELLEN OSBORN.

Pa Tries His Hand at Bowling.

When Uncle Wesley and Aunt Grace and the Bassetts were here Tuesday night Uncle Wesley told paw he'd like to join a bowling club because it was lots of fun and good for the system.

"Well," paw said, "mehby I ot, but I see they are a Chicago doctor says it's a bad thing to exercise too much by walking home from the office when you have to keep your brain going all day. Sometimes I almost think it might be true. I don't see why anybody wants to walk three miles when you can buy pills for seven cents a bottle at the Department store and get a strap in a street car if you watch your chance and have sense enough to start before the rush hour. Another nice thing about riding home in a street car is you can let your breath freeze and rest."



was worn a white cap with long pink streamers. A shining tin milkmaid's pail was carried.

Many of the Empire dresses worn at ordinary evening gatherings are picturesque enough to suggest fancy dress. So are the new 1930 gowns. Indeed, what with the season's fancy for picking and choosing at will almost at random, from among the modes of the First Empire, the whimsies of Louis XV and Louis XVI, the nations of Directory days, the ideas of the cavaliers and even of the Stuarts, it requires only the most moderate exercise of the imagination to find in any ball room a panorama illustrating the history of costume.

Perhaps the 1830 dresses are reproduced with the most exactness. They are made usually of white silk gauze and are flounced from the hem to the waist line.

These are not nearly so attractive as the most recent editions of the Empire dress, which also is at its best in gauze, crepe de chine or some diaphanous fabric, since it must be soft and clinging enough not to hide wholly the outlines of the figure.

A fascinating Empire dress lately worn by Miss Elsie French, soon to become Mrs. Alfred Vanderbilt, was of gauze with a wide band of moonlight-blue velvet in the form of a bolero around the décollete neck. The velvet was embroidered with shimmering silver, and the sleeves were a series of puffs alternating with other velvet bands.

For young girls black net has become almost the favorite material of the Empire dress; it is often made over gold or silver tissue, and in striped with black velvet ribbon. The lower part of such a gown as recently completed was a circular flounce of black velvet embroidered with jet; this flounce was attached to the upper part of the skirt by means of a band of Chantilly lace insertion that took the form of vine sprays and tendrils.

One of Daisy Dunt's most admired dresses is of white mousseline de soie dotted over with gold and silver tulle, and finished around the hem with a Vandyke bordering of pink aters. A long scarf of pink chiffon passes under the arms in Empire fashion and falls

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That never worked on a Farm and learned to pitch a Tun of hay in seven minutes make me Laff. This'll be Child's play for me. Go ahead, and Let's see how you Do it."

So Uncle Wesley took a Ball about half as Big as the One paw was Holding up with both hands, and after he Got back a piece he ran Down the alley as hard as he Could let Go. He only knocked down Seven pins, and then paw Started. He had on his Long tailed Coat, and When he Got to going full Speed it Stuck out Like a Table cloth on a close line when the wind blows. After he Got to the place where he wanted to stop he Gave a swing with the ball as hard as He could, and it was all Slippery so His Feet flew up and I couldn't help wondering if me and maw and Little Albert would ride in a carriage all by ourselves Going to the Funeral or if They would be Sumbuddy in to keep Us company. After a while He came Down like when the Coal wagon is backed up to the Sidewalk and the Teamster let's the gate fall behind. The ball rolled off the alley about half way Down to wher the pins were.

When paw got so he Could sit up maw Got Hold of his hand and ast him if We Better send for a nambulance.

"No," paw told her, "Send for the Footkiller. He ot to no about the people that Go around telling abuddy this is fun."

GEORGIE.

GET DOWN TO FACTS.

Read What Wheeling Citizens Say. Get down to the facts of the matter. Don't take a stranger's word. It is easier to prove the truthfulness of statements made by citizens of Wheeling than endorsements coming from some far away place. Read the following:

Mrs. Robert Liebert, of No. 175 Fourteenth street, says: "With the exception of kidney trouble I was always strong and healthy until pain in my loins, back and head prevented me from doing anything by day or resting well at night. I was obliged to sleep with my hands on my back, it hurt me so. I used different remedies and plasters, but even the latter in time failed to afford any relief. I saw Doan's Kidney Pills advertised and came to the conclusion they would help me, so I got a box at the Logan Drug Company's store and took them. I was not disappointed, as they helped me right away and I felt better and stronger than for years."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

Autocrat of the Paper.

Good Words: If the newspaper office were surrounded by an invading army, or fiercely bombarded, the autocrat of the composing room would insist on the locking up of the forms and the stereotyping of the pages, as usual. There is no limit to his devotion to duty. One night, for instance, in a provincial newspaper office, the composition room was suddenly enveloped in smoke and there was the cry of "Fire!"

"Fire or no fire, we must get to press," snarled the overseer, giving out a late telegram to the compositor, out of copy, at the desk side.

The type was brought, galley after galley, pushed upon the imposing stones, arranged in pages and screwed into the forms ready for transit to the foundry. Meantime evidence was abundant that the adjacent building was in flames. The smoke became denser. Outside the office there was a shout of people, the clatter of horses' feet, the rattle of fire engines; inside, the heavy tread of firemen on the stairs, the bursting open of the composing room door and the hurried entrance of two members of the fire brigade, dragging a hose pipe.

The overseer, glaring at the intruders, sprang from his seat bubbling with indignation, and shouted: "Here, you fellows! what the — are you doing?"

"We are taking the hose through—to play on the burning building," jerked out one of the firemen, astounded at the overseer's belligerent attitude.

"Then go and play somewhere else!" hoarsely exclaimed the overseer, trying to shoulder them out of the room.

"But the place is on fire!" exclaimed the men in amazement.

"I don't care if the whole city's on fire—we must get to press!" roared the overseer; and he did, though the first edition had a narrow squeak of publication, for the office windows blurred and cracked with heat and the composing room was deluged with water.

Brave Men Fall

Victims to stomach, liver and kidney troubles, as well as women, and all feel the results in loss of appetite, poisons in the blood, backache, nervousness, headache and tired, listless, run-down feeling. But there's no need to feel like that. Listen to J. W. Gardner, Indianapolis. He says: "Electric Bitters are just the thing for a man when he is all run down and don't care whether he lives or dies. It is more to give me new strength and good appetite than anything I could take. I can now eat any thing and have a new lease on life." Only 50 cents, at Logan Drug Co.'s drug store. Every bottle guaranteed.

In all stages of Nasal Catarrh there should be cleanliness. As experience proves, Ely's Cream Balm is a cleanser, soothe and healer of the diseased membranes. It is not drying nor irritating, and does not produce sneezing. Price, 50 cents at druggists, or it will be mailed by Ely Brothers, 50 Warren Street, New York. Upon being placed into the nostrils it spreads over the membrane, and relief is immediate. It is an agreeable cure.

If Baby Is Cutting Teeth

Be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gum, allays all pain, cures wind colic and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

Microscopic Metallurgy—A Novel Coal-Making Experiment—Analytical Portraiture—Atlantic Animals in Central Africa—No Life in Mummy Wheat—A Poison in Horsedesh—The Pneumatic Saw—X Rays in Baldness.

The microscope is becoming indispensable in testing iron and steel for qualities that are not revealed by chemical analysis alone. For examination, states W. H. Merrett, a section three-quarters of an inch square, is carefully polished and its structure is brought out by rubbing with licores juice, applying dilute nitric acid or heating to silver color. A photo-micrograph is then taken with a magnifying power of 60 to 200 diameters. The picture shows steel like a rock with various minerals distributed through it, and the iron, carbon and their different mixtures are easily recognized. Pure iron, one soft substance in interlacing crystals, is called "ferrite." Steel—having the property of taking different degrees of hardness—is iron with carbon varying up to about 2 per cent cast iron, containing from 2 to 5 per cent, and the "cementite" of high carbon steel that has been slowly cooled is a hard, granular iron carbide, with 6.6 per cent of carbon, the "pearlite" forming low carbon steel is a mixture of ferrite and cementite in alternate thin laminae, while white, mottled and grey cast iron are different combinations of ferrite, cementite and graphite. Other minerals show how the steel has been treated. The mass is converted into the interlacing crystalline fibers known as "martensite," when quenched at a high temperature, or into "troostite" and martensite at a lower temperature, or high carbon steel may show "austenite" when suddenly cooled. From the peculiarities of structure the value of the metal may be determined, while minute defects are also revealed.

An accidental experiment at the Nancy University has furnished the first step toward the synthesis of coal. A piece of sound lignum vitae was used for the footstep of a turbine making 112 revolutions per minute, and weighing about half a ton, and in six months the upper part of the block was found to be converted into a coal-like substance that may be placed between the lignites and the more recent coals. The bottom of the block—which was damp—not wet—was intact.

The idea of combining many pictures in one composite photograph to as to get a type face, was brought out nearly twenty years ago, by Francis Galton, F. R. S., who has now devised the opposite plan of analytical portraiture, in which is sought to record what is individual in the expression by combining different photographs of the same face. Two portraits, for example, may show a man with a normal expression and when he is smiling. On placing a carefully made positive of one picture on a negative of the other, details common to both are obliterated, and the result is that only the smile is left. When the process is carried out it is expected to give physiologists and artists an important means of analyzing expression. From the portrait mentioned it has been learned already that the smile is an act involving the whole face, and not, as we have been led to believe, simply a few muscles around the mouth.

One of the most interesting regions to the geologist at present is East Africa. In the great rift valley that has been traced for an enormous distance across this part of the globe are numerous large fresh-water lakes, and it is a singular fact that only Tanganyika—which is hundreds of miles from the Indian ocean—should contain prawns, jelly-fishes and marine molluscs. Mr. J. E. S. Moore, who has been long at work upon this problem, states that the absence of these animals from the great Nyassa and other lakes to the north and south, disproves the theory that they are a remnant of an older fresh-water fauna peculiar to the African lakes. Such animals, however, appear to have existed in the great circular Congo basin, and it is suggested that at a time when this basin was covered by the sea, Tanganyika was stocked from the west. An extension of the lake for about eighty miles would connect it with this basin.

The embryos of wheat and barley from Egyptian mummy cases have been examined by E. Galm. He finds little external change in the grains, but no change in the chemical composition of the reserve substances, but radical change in the chemical composition of the embryo, whose dormant life must have expired centuries ago.

The recent balloon voyage from Paris of Count de La Vaux—1,200 miles in thirty-five hours and forty-five minutes—is probably the longest on record. Though containing two men, the balloon contained only 57,000 cubic feet of illuminating gas.

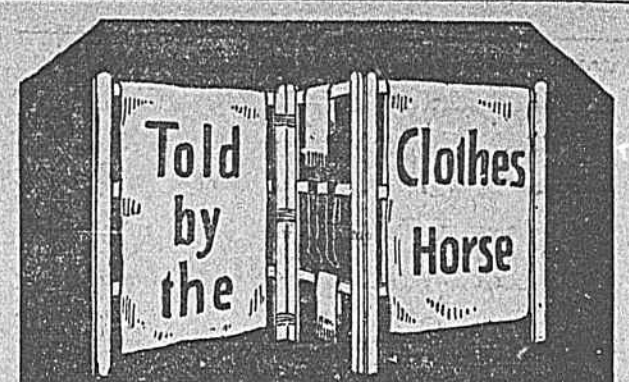
The widespread prejudice against the use of horse flesh as food seems to be well founded. In a recent investigation, M. Pluger has found that dogs and carnivorous animals of zoological gardens become affected with intestinal troubles when fed exclusively on horse meat, and the dogs steadily lost weight. The harmful substance, which is not yet known, is dissolved by both water and alcohol, the meat being made harmless by soaking. It was suspected that the injurious effect was connected with the poverty of horse flesh in fatty matter, but the addition of horse fat did not lessen the intestinal disturbance, although the fat of mutton, beef or pork seemed to have anti-toxic action, and made the horse flesh harmless. To render this meat wholesome, therefore, it is recommended to cook with half an ounce of the kidney fat of beef or mutton for each pound, the meat being well holed and the water thrown away.

A promising development of the pneumatic tool is a fret-saw lately brought out. An ordinary key-hole saw blade is used, and this is directly attached to the piston of a pneumatic hammer, which makes from 1,000 to 1,500 strokes per minute. This tool is adapted to many uses in addition to those of the pattern-maker and cabinet-maker. It is already employed for sawing hard bones in a large pork-packing house, and the ease with which it can be made to follow difficult lines, cutting rapidly, fits it for a wide range of work.

Injury to the hair has been done by Reichenstein says Dr. Kienbock, of Vienna, however, believes that they constitute a remedy for baldness, and has shown a man of twenty-six years, who had been bald for several years, and whose hair has been partially restored. He had been treated for two months, a round patch on the scalp being subjected to the rays six times for fifteen minutes.

From a study of 428 asteroids, M. de Freycinet concludes that these little planets belong to eight independent rings, each of which, before breaking into fragments, traveled as one piece around the sun.

Putting the victim for a short time into oxygen under pressure has been found by M. A. Mosso to be a remedy for water-gas poisoning—one not easy to apply, however.



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